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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/821,578	03/29/2001	Vincent Vaccarelli	LEAP:101_US_	3469

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EXAMINER

BELL, PAUL A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2675

DATE MAILED: 12/19/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/821,578

Applicant(s)

VACCARELLI, VINCENT

Examiner

PAUL A BELL

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Zirm (5,376,007).

With regard to claim 1 Zirm teaches a microscopy laboratory system comprising: a plurality of student microscopes (figure 1, item 14); a plurality of cameras (figure 1, item 15) associated one with each of said plurality of student microscopes for generating an image signal representing a student view image of at least a portion of the field of view of said student microscope (column 3, lines 48-54); multiplexed control means (figure 1, item 17) connected to said plurality of cameras for receiving said image signals and enabling an instructor to select a set of said image signals for display, wherein said multiplexed control means generates an instruction image signal generated from said selected set of image signals (figure 1, item 30); and display means (figure 1, items 18 or 29) connected to said multiplexed control means for

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receiving said instruction image signal and displaying an instruction image comprising student view images corresponding to said selected set of image signals (column 3, lines 51-53).

With regard to claim 2 Zirm teaches a microscope laboratory system according to claim 1, further comprising an instructor microscope and a camera (figure 1, items 14, 15, and 36) for generating an image signal (figure 1, item 24) representing an instructor view image of at least a portion of the field of view of said instructor microscope, wherein said multiplexed control means is connected to said camera (figure 1, item 24) associated with said instructor microscope to receive said image signal generated thereby, whereby said instruction image optionally comprises said instructor view image (column 4, lines 15-20).

With regard to claim 3 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 1, wherein said multiplexed control means allows said instructor to select all of said image signals from said cameras associated with said plurality of student microscopes as said selected set (column 4, lines 15-20).

With regard to claim 4 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 2, wherein said multiplexed control means allows said instructor to select all of said image signals from said cameras associated with said plurality of student microscopes as said selected set (column 4, lines 15-20).

With regard to claim 5 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 1, wherein said multiplexed control means allows said instructor to select said image signal from

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said camera associated with any one of said plurality of student microscopes as said selected set (column 4, lines 15-20).

With regard to claim 6 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 2, wherein said multiplexed control means allows said instructor to select said image signal from said camera associated with any one of said plurality of student microscopes as said selected set (column 4, lines 15-20).

With regard to claim 7 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 1, wherein said multiplexed control means allows said instructor to select said image signals from cameras of a predetermined sub-group of said plurality of student microscopes as said selected set (column 4, lines 15-20 and column 3, lines 47-54).

With regard to claim 8 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 2, wherein said multiplexed control means allows said instructor to select said image signals from cameras of a 15 predetermined sub-group of said plurality of student microscopes as said selected set (column 4, lines 15-20 and column 3, lines 47-54).

With regard to claim 9 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 7, wherein there is a plurality of different predetermined sub-groups of said student microscopes (column 4, lines 15-20 and column 3, lines 47-54).

With regard to claim 10 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 8, wherein there is a plurality of different predetermined sub-groups of said student microscopes (column 4, lines 15-20 and column 3, lines 47-54).

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With regard to claim 11 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 2, wherein said multiplexed control means allows said instructor to select said image signal from said camera associated with said instructor microscope as said selected set (column 4, lines 15-20 and column 3, lines 47-54).

With regard to claim 12 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 1, further comprising a display image marker connected to said multiplexed control means for enabling said instructor to annotate said instruction image (column 4, lines 43-46).

With regard to claim 13 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 2, further comprising a display image marker connected to said multiplexed control means for enabling said instructor to annotate said instruction image (column 4, lines 43-46).

With regard to claim 14 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 1, further comprising a computer connected to said multiplexed control means, said computer having a memory, whereby said instruction image and said student view images can be stored in and retrieved from said memory (figure 2, item 35).

With regard to claim 15 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 2, further comprising a computer connected to said multiplexed control means, said computer having a memory, whereby said instruction image, said student view images, and said instructor view image can be stored in and retrieved from said memory (figure 2, item 35).

With regard to claim 16 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 1, wherein said multiplexed control means comprises means for selectively superimposing

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respective identification information on each said student view image in said instruction image (column 4, lines 42-46).

With regard to claim 17 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 2, wherein said multiplexed control means comprises means for selectively superimposing respective identification information on each said student view image in said instruction image (column 4, lines 42-46).

With regard to claim 18 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 1, wherein said multiplexed control means comprises means for magnifying said instruction image (figure 1, item 30).

With regard to claim 19 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 2, wherein said multiplexed control means comprises means for magnifying said instruction image (figure 1, item 30).

With regard to claim 20 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 1, wherein said connection between said multiplexed control means and said plurality of cameras comprises a wireless connection (column 3, lines 1-15).

With regard to claim 21 Zirm teaches the microscopy laboratory system according to claim 1, wherein said connection between said display means and said multiplexed control means comprises a wireless connection (column 3, lines 1-15).

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*Conclusion*

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul Bell whose telephone number is (703) 306-3019. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Saras, can be reached at (703) 305-9720.

Any response to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
or faxed to: (703) 872-9314


Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist). Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

*Paul Bell*

Paul Bell

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9 December 2002

  
STEVEN SARAS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600